

Background

SNC staff continues to interact with a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties about issues and opportunities related to all program areas. These activities include ongoing interactions with grantees, efforts to assist potential grantees and information-sharing opportunities with local governments and other organizations. For purposes of reporting on this activity staff has organized efforts in a general category and efforts focused within one of the seven program areas.

General Outreach Efforts

- Area Managers and staff are making presentation to County Boards of Supervisors at regularly scheduled meetings throughout the Region. To date, staff has presented to the Shasta, Alpine, Plumas, Butte, Yuba, Lassen, El Dorado County, and Madera Counties' Boards. Other presentations are being scheduled.
- Presentation to the California Forestry Association Board of Directors regarding climate change, fire and related issues at annual meeting.
- Attendance at the Regional Council of Rural Counties Annual Officers Dinner. Participated in the TUCARE tour, Tuolumne County.
- Participated in the Modoc Line Dedication Event, Modoc/Lassen Counties
- Staff attended tour of Concow area (Butte County) to view fire damage and fuels reduction projects with Assemblyman LaMalfa, Assemblyman Nielsen and Butte County Supervisor Yamaguchi.
- Presentation to the Commonwealth Club on Climate Change in the Sierra, San Francisco.
- Legislative Staff Tour – Staff planned and hosted a tour of projects and potential projects for legislative fiscal staff. Visits included the City of Placerville, Wakamatsu Ranch (American River Conservancy) and the Calaveras Healthy Impacts Products Solution (CHIPS).
- Participated in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding opportunities meeting at which NRCS staff presented useful information about available funding sources through the 2008 Farm Bill.
- Staff has been attending meetings and workshops regarding other funding sources that are available for potential grantees. (Department of Water Resources Revolving Fund; Department of Health Services Water Quality, NRCS).
- On-going communications with current grantees regarding impacts from bond freeze and completion of project work.

Recreation and Tourism

- Held meeting with Placer County Parks Department to discuss potential applications for Immigrant Trail Project and Acquisition Project adjacent to Hidden Falls Regional Park.

- Staff attended regular meeting of the El Dorado Youth Commission Meeting and shared information with youth council on how to participate in public processes to improve bicycle paths in El Dorado County.
- Attended Yosemite Gateway Partners Meeting.
- Staff has been interacting with the Sierra Business Council, State Parks, the US Forestry Services (USFS), the Bureau of Land Management, Art organizations and others to further develop plans and funding to support a regional National Geographic Geotourism MapGuide Project.

Physical, Cultural, Archaeological, Historical, and Living Resources

- Attended presentation from USFS and Institute for Bird Populations to evaluate possible grant applications for research and other types of projects in the Sierra.
- Held project Development meeting with Foothill Conservancy regarding potential efforts to implement a dam removal project on E Panther Creek in the Mokelumne River Watershed.
- Met with Sierra Cascade Land Trust Council to discuss future SOG applications and opportunities for work with California Indian Basketweavers Association and possible development of film commission programs for SCLTC.
- Discussed California Tribal Water Summit Planning Conference, a Tribal Water Summit to include California tribes in the State Water Plan process.
- Attended monthly meeting of the SARSAS (Save Auburn Ravine Salmon and Steelhead) and discussed potential SNC grant applications.

Working Landscapes

- Attended UC Extension presentation on the Irrigated Agricultural Lands Program and presented Grant Program opportunities to mostly ranch owner/operators.
- Attended the California Farm Bureau Federation's Annual Legislative Reception.
- Staff attended the annual California Rangeland Conservation Coalition Summit and met with several partners and potential partners to discuss future rangeland conservation projects

Natural Disaster Risks

- Attended Mariposa Firesafe Council Board meeting.
- Staff met with and City of Rocklin officials and discussed Open Space Fire Prevention, Vegetation Management and Watershed Protection Prescribed Grazing Project in the City of Rocklin.
- Met with Mariposa Firesafe Council to discuss various issues relating to grants.
- Staff held a project development meeting with Highway 108 Firesafe Council to discuss grant process and potential application.

Water and Air Quality

- Held meeting with Kern River Heritage Foundation.
- Held a White Sulphur Springs site Visit with the Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council to discuss potential application.
- Attended meeting of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board informing water agencies about the projection of stimulus dollars flowing into both the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.
- Staff participated in tour of Wolf Creek from the headwaters in Grass Valley to the Bear River confluence to familiarize for potential future grant applications.
- Participated in the Mariposa IRWMP Planning meeting to discuss development of a region acceptance process proposal for DWR in order to qualify for future funding.
- Staff coordinated and attended a meeting with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) regarding Sierra Meadow Restoration Funding Strategy for the Sierra Nevada.

Regional Economy

- Staff met with Sierra Business Council to discuss capacity building and tools for local organizations and governments.
- Staff helped to coordinate and facilitate three meetings of the Calaveras Consensus Group a large-scale gathering of numerous agencies and local interests to discuss the development of a sustainable forestry economy in the West Point area of Calaveras County.

Public Lands

- Participated in a meeting with BLM to discuss coordinating increasing attention to Abandoned Mines Remediation and safety related projects.

Next Steps

SNC staff will continue to take advantage of opportunities for attendance at meetings, site visits and other events to inform and assist stakeholders.

Recommendation

No action is needed by the Board; however, suggestions for outreach activities or comments on existing efforts are welcome.